

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 through 29 (canceled)

Claim 30 (new) A method for operating a barrier, such as a gate or garage door, to move between open and closed positions, said barrier being operably connected to an operator system including a controller comprising a base control circuit, a human operator controllable base switch operably connected to said base control circuit, a radio frequency base transmitter, a radio frequency base receiver and plural remote control units operable to communicate with said base control circuit by way of said base receiver, each of said remote control units including a radio frequency remote transmitter and a radio frequency remote receiver, said method comprising the steps of:

causing said base transmitter to transmit a radio frequency signal to said remote receivers; and

causing said base control circuit to effect one of opening and closing said barrier dependent on said base receiver receiving a signal from a remote transmitter of one of said plural remote control units.

Claim 31 (new) The method set forth in Claim 30 including the steps of:

actuating said base switch to effect closing of said barrier;

causing said controller to determine if all of said remote control units are within a range of said controller effective to receive signals from all of said remote transmitters; and

causing said base transmitter to cease transmitting signals to said remote receivers if all of said remote control units are within said range.

Claim 32 (new) The method set forth in Claim 30 including the steps of:

actuating said base switch to cause said barrier to move to a closed position;

causing said controller to verify that at least one of said remote control units is out of a range to receive a signal from a remote transmitter of said at least one remote control unit; and

causing said controller to effect operation of said base transmitter to transmit at least periodic signals in search of said at least one remote control unit.

Claim 33 (new) The method set forth in Claim 30 including the steps of:

causing said barrier to close in response to at least one of said remote control units moving out of range of one of a signal transmission from said base transmitter to said one remote control unit and a signal transmission from said one remote control unit to said base receiver.

Claim 34 (new) The method set forth in Claim 30 including the steps of:

actuating said base switch to effect opening of said barrier;

causing said base transmitter to transmit a signal; and

causing said controller to maintain said barrier in an open condition as long as said controller receives a signal from at least one remote transmitter.

Claim 35 (new) The method set forth in Claim 30 including the steps of:

causing said controller to effect closing of said barrier; and

ceasing transmission of signals from said base transmitter if said base receiver receives a signal from all of said remote control units.

Claim 36 (new) The method set forth in Claim 30 including the steps of:

actuating said base switch to effect opening of said barrier; and

causing said controller to operate said base transmitter to transmit signals to said remote control units as long as any one of said remote control units is out of range for receiving a signal from said base transmitter or any one of said remote control units is out of range of said base receiver receiving a signal from said one remote control unit.

Claim 37 (new) The method set forth in Claim 30 including the step of:

causing said controller to effect closing of said barrier after a predetermined time commencing with opening of said barrier if none of said remote transmitters are within a range to cause said base receiver to receive signals therefrom.

Claim 38 (new) The method set forth in Claim 30 wherein:

said remote control units each include a human operator controllable remote switch operably connected to a remote transmitter, respectively, and said method includes the steps of:

actuating one of said remote switches to effect closing said barrier;

maintaining said barrier in a closed position if at least one of said remote receivers is outside a signal receiving range of a signal from said base transmitter and another one of said remote receivers is in a signal receiving range of said base transmitter.

Claim 39 (new) The method set forth in Claim 30 wherein:
said remote control units each include a human operator controllable remote switch operably connected to a remote transmitter, respectively, and said method includes the steps of:

actuating one of said remote switches to effect closing said barrier; and

causing said base transmitter to send periodic signals searching for one of said remote control units.

Claim 40 (new) The method set forth in Claim 30 including the steps of:

causing said controller to open said barrier; and

causing said controller to maintain said barrier in an open position if one of said remote control units is in signal receiving range of said base transmitter.

Claim 41 (new) The method set forth in Claim 40 including the step of:

causing said controller to close said barrier if said one remote control unit and said controller cease to be in signal receiving range of each other.

Claim 42 (new) The method set forth in Claim 30 wherein:
said remote control units each include a human operator controlled remote switch operably connected to a remote transmitter, respectively, and said method includes the steps of:

causing said barrier to open in response to said base receiver receiving a signal from a remote transmitter; and

causing said controller to close said barrier only in response to actuation of one of said switches.

Claim 43 (new) A method for operating a barrier, such as a gate or garage door, to move between open and closed positions, said barrier being operably connected to an operator system including a controller comprising a base control circuit, a radio frequency base transmitter and a radio frequency base receiver and plural remote control units operable to communicate with said base control circuit, said remote control units each including a radio frequency remote transmitter and a radio frequency remote receiver, said method comprising the steps of:

causing said base transmitter to transmit a base radio frequency signal to said remote receivers;

causing said control circuit to effect one of opening and closing said barrier depending on whether or not said base receiver receives a signal from one of said remote transmitters;

causing any one of said remote receivers receiving a signal from said base transmitter to effect operation of a remote transmitter associated with said one remote receiver to generate a remote radio frequency signal when said one remote receiver receives a signal from said base transmitter; and

causing said operator system to open said barrier solely in response to said base receiver receiving said remote radio frequency signal.

Claim 44 (new) A method for operating a barrier, such as a gate or garage door, to move between open and closed positions, said barrier being operably connected to an operator system including a controller comprising a base control circuit, a radio frequency base transmitter and a radio frequency base receiver and plural remote control units operable to communicate with said base control circuit, each of said remote control units including a radio frequency remote transmitter and a radio frequency remote receiver, said method comprising the steps of:

causing said base transmitter to transmit a radio frequency signal to said remote receivers;

causing said control circuit to effect one of opening and closing said barrier depending on whether or not said base receiver receives a signal from at least one of said remote transmitters; and

causing said barrier to move from a closed position to an open position in response to a signal from any one of said remote transmitters and remaining in an open position as long as any one of said remote control units is within a radio frequency communication range of said controller.

Claim 45 (new) A method for operating a barrier, such as a gate or garage door, to move between open and closed positions, said barrier being operably connected to an operator system including a controller comprising a base control circuit, a radio frequency base transmitter and a radio frequency base receiver and plural remote control units operable to communicate with said base control circuit, each of said remote control units including a radio frequency remote transmitter and a radio frequency remote receiver, said method comprising the steps of:

causing said base transmitter to transmit a radio frequency signal to said remote receivers;

causing said control circuit to effect one of opening and closing said barrier depending on whether or not said base receiver receives a signal from said one of said remote transmitters;

automatically causing said barrier to move from a closed position to an open position when any one of said remote receivers is within a predetermined range of said base transmitter; and

automatically causing said barrier to move from an open position to a closed position after said any one of said remote receivers moves out of said predetermined range of said base transmitter.